

Poetry.

"NEARER TO THEE."

They were singing, sweetly singing,
And the song melodiously
On the evening air was ringing:
"Nearer, O my God, to thee!"

In my eyes the teardrops glistened
As it stirred the twilight dim,
And I wondered, as I listened,
If it brought them nearer him.

Were they like the wanderer, weary,
Song and life in sweet accord,
Resting in the darkness dreary,
In that nearness to the Lord?
Had his spirit ever sought them,
To be slighted, or denied?
Had that dear song ever brought them
Closer to the Saviour's side?

I have heard its music often,
Felt its meaning deep and sweet,
And my weary heart would soften
Singing at my Master's feet,
"Nearer thee,"—O precious feeling!—
Nearer thee in gain and loss;
Nearer thee when I am kneeling
In the shadow of thy cross

Nearer thee when love descending,
Falls in blessings on my head;
Nearer thee when I am bending
O'er the graves that hide my dead!
Nearer thee in joy, in sorrow,
'Tis the same where'er I roam;
Nearer thee to-day, to-morrow,
O my king, my Christ, my home!

—Frank L. Stanton.

Contributions.

AN AWFUL LESSON.

H. M. LICHTY.

On Sunday night, August 11, the boiler in the Gumry hotel at Denver exploded. It rent the building into fragments resulting in the death of twenty-three persons definitely known while other bodies may have been so mutilated and scattered that they will never be found. Among the victims were Mr. Gumry, the owner of the building, his only child, a daughter and her husband. Thus the valuable property was not alone destroyed but the entire family met its fate in the dreadful catastrophe. To read of the terrible loss of life, the recovery and identification of the bodies is truly heart rending. But *the lesson* is that the cause of this great loss of life and property is attributed to a drunken engineer. The blame rests however not alone with him. The Gumry hotel run in connection a "bar." The proprietors knew the engineer was a patron—spent his money at this saloon which name politeness seems to temper by calling it *bar*. It is even claimed that the "bar tender" knew the engineer was drunk less than an hour before the explosion and the fact that he was away at a neighboring sa-

loon when the explosion occurred is enough to alone condemn him.

He is a young man and to read how he awoke to his sense of the awful calamity—how he ran fearing his life from an infuriated crowd, how he wandered through field and forests and along R. R. tracts, how remorse and anguish drove him to a mountain town, into a saloon where he endeavored to seek stimulants in the damaging cup, how he was arrested, taken to Denver to meet a sister who is trying to share his sorrow with him, how he has not "been known to smile," how he wrote his name in the register of the city prison, with what expression he notes the officers write in the next volume the terrible word *murder*, how he peers from behind the prison bars. But oh! the picture. Let us draw the curtain over it and ask the question, Who has the responsibility? Is it the youthful engineer or the man who employed him? Or the man who sold him the drink? Or the people who make laws to license such a traffic? Who? Who? And the echo comes back, Who? Who? Wray, Colo.

THE MIND OF CHRIST AND ITS REWARD.

S. KIEHL.

Paul wrote to the Corinthian brethren, we have the mind of Christ. I Cor. 2: 16. To the Roman brethren he wrote, If any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of his. Rom. 8: 9. Let us examine ourselves. II Cor. 13: 5. Do we have the mind or spirit of Christ? He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. I Jno. 2: 6. How did Jesus walk? It is written of him, that he went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10: 38.

Jesus says of himself, Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? Luke 2: 49. I am meek and lowly in heart. Matt. 21: 29. I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. Jno. 5: 30. I came down from heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. Jno. 6: 38. And he that sent me is with me; the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. Jno. 8: 29.

A grand lesson for us. May we walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and long suffering with joyfulness; giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance

of the saints in light; who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son, in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Col. 1: 10-14.

Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow his steps, who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth; who when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered he threatened not, but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously; who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. I Peter 2: 21-24.

It is better if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit. I Peter 3: 17, 18. Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind. I Peter 4: 1.

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men, and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God hath highly exalted him and given him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things in earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father. Phil. 2: 5-11. If we suffer, we shall also reign with him. II Tim. 2: 12. Can we say with the Corinthian brethren, "We have the mind of Christ?" May God enable us to do so in deed and in truth, and to him be all the glory through Christ.

Dayton, O., Sept. 1.

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